

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Edward A. Garvey  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
LeRoy Koppendrayner  
Gregory Scott

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of an Extended Area Service  
Petition Among the Exchanges of Kenyon and  
Wanamingo

ISSUE DATE: March 8, 1999

DOCKET NO. P-407/CP-97-1518

ORDER CERTIFYING POLLING  
RESULTS, APPROVING PETITION, AND  
REQUIRING INSTALLATION OF SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On October 10, 1997, telephone customers in the Kenyon and Wanamingo exchanges filed a set of petitions for Extended Area Service (EAS) among the two communities: Kenyon and Wanamingo. Kenyon and Wanamingo are adjacent to one another and form Independent School District #2172. Contel of Minnesota, Inc., d/b/a GTE Minnesota (GTE) serves both exchanges.

On October 20, 1997, the Minnesota Department of Public Service (the Department) sent a letter to the Commission stating that the number of signatures on the petitions exceeded 15 percent of the lines in the petitioning exchanges. The Department recommended that, if the Commission received no protest, the Commission direct GTE to file traffic studies, cost studies and proposed rates.

On December 22, 1997, the Commission issued its ORDER REQUIRING THE FILING OF COST STUDIES AND PROPOSED RATES in this matter. The Commission found that this petition conformed to the School District EAS statute: Minn. Law (1997), Chapter 59 - H.F. 211. The Commission directed GTE to file cost studies and proposed rates **for school district EAS** between Kenyon and Wanamingo.

On March 17, 1998, GTE filed cost studies and proposed rates

On March 24, 1998, the Department submitted comments, recommending that the Commission accept GTE's revenue requirement and proposed rates, and proceed to poll the telephone subscribers in Kenyon and Wanamingo.

On October 23, 1998, the Commission issued its ORDER ESTABLISHING RATES FOR POLLING.

Polling of telephone subscribers in Independent School District (ISD) #2172 (the Kenyon and Wanamingo exchanges) was conducted between December 28, 1998 and February 18, 1999.

The Commission met on March 2, 1999 to consider this matter.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

#### **I. CERTIFICATION OF POLLING RESULTS: ISD #2172 - Kenyon and Wanamingo Exchanges**

The results of the polling show that a majority of voting subscribers in both of the polled exchanges (Kenyon and Wanamingo) voted in favor of the proposed School District EAS.

The results for Kenyon were as follows:

<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	
<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
543	53.9	464	46.1

The results for Wanamingo were as follows:

<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	
<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
403	65.7	210	34.3

#### **II. ORDER FOR INSTALLATION**

The third and final criterion for School District EAS is that a majority of customers responding to a poll in the petitioning exchange favor its installation. Because a majority of subscribers in both the Kenyon and Wanamingo exchanges returning their ballots voted in favor of the proposed School District EAS route, the third and final criterion is met in this petition.

Accordingly, the Commission will direct GTE, the telephone company serving these two exchanges, to implement the requested School District EAS route within 12 months of the date of this Order. To expedite the implementation process, the Commission will order GTE to file a schedule of the planned implementation within 60 days of this Order. GTE will also be required to file an explanation of the reasons for any subsequent change in that schedule.

### **ORDER**

1. The EAS petition regarding ISD #2172 is hereby approved. The affected telephone

company [GTE - Minnesota (GTE) ] shall implement the service within 12 months following the date of this Order.

2. GTE shall file an implementation schedule within 60 days of the Order. If, for some reason, the implementation schedule changes, GTE should immediately notify the Commission and explain the reason(s) for the change(s).
3. Within 10 days of the date of this Order, GTE shall file the first of two proposed customer notices for approval by Commission staff. The notices for customers in the petitioning exchanges (Kenyon and Wanamingo) should list the results of the polling, the EAS additives and the proposed implementation date. After approval, GTE shall serve the notices in the first possible billing cycle.
4. GTE shall send final, Commission approved, notices to customers in the Kenyon and Wanamingo exchanges, either by bill insert or separate mailing. The final notice should describe the service, instruct customers on dialing, list the additional monthly rates, the date of implementation and any other pertinent information. GTE should issue the notice one month before they implement EAS.
5. GTE shall file tariff sheets reflecting Commission Orders that have established the rates and terms for School District EAS between the Kenyon and Wanamingo exchanges at least 30 days before the implementation of EAS. Thereupon, this docket (P-407/CP-97-1518) will be closed.
6. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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